February 28, 2014

The Dakota Student

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UND falls behind in international students
— An increase in international students nationwide has no affect on UND’s numbers

By Emmy Erbes
The Dakota Student

The number of international students studying in America increased significantly from last school year — though not at UND.

According to new findings from Pew Research, the number of international students increased by 7 percent to 819,644 during the 2012-2013 school year — $5,149 more than the year before.

However, UND has not followed the same trend.

“We have about 1,000 international students this year,” Director of International Programs Ray Lagasse said. “In the past two to three years, the numbers have stayed the same, but they dramatically increased four years ago because of the flight programs.”

Spirit week kicks off
— Campus celebrates alumni philanthropy efforts

By Ashley Marquis
The Dakota Student

Students, faculty, staff and alumni are fired up with UND spirit while cold weather persists on campus during Spirit week. Spirit week is a way for UND to celebrate the philanthropists that have made the university what it is today, according to organizers.

“Spirit Week this year is transitioning from celebrating the Spirit Campaign to celebrating philanthropy at UND,” CEO of the UND Alumni Association and Foundation DeAnna Carlson Zink said. “What would UND look like without philanthropy? There would be no Chester Fritz Library, no John D. Odegard School of Aerospace, no Ralph Services, LGBTQ services, the International Center and Multicultural Student Services. The new position will report to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Candidate Sivagami Subbaraman is currently the Director of the LGBTQ Resource Center at Georgetown University. During Subbaraman’s visit...
**DATEBOOK/WEATHER**

**Friday, February 28, 2014**

**TODAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014**

**EVENT** | “Dearly Departed”, 7:30 p.m., Fire Hall Theater. Performance by Greater Grand Forks Community Theatre. Tickets cost $15 or $12 for students and seniors.

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014**

**EVENT** | Family Fun Day, 1 to 3 p.m., Wellness Center. Includes rock wall, open gym with volleyball, basketball, parachutes and board games. $10 per family.

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**SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2014**

**EVENT** | Rheude/Ingle Duo Clarinet Recital, 2 to 4 p.m., Hughes Fine Arts Center 202. Recital featuring Professor Elizabeth Rheude and Michelle Ingle. $6 for adults, $3 for students and seniors.

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**Tell us what is happening on campus**
Submit information via email to dakotastudentmedia@gmail.com or call 777-2678.

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**WEATHER REPORT**

**TODAY**

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**Campus brief**

**Space Studies colloquium to be held March 10**

Vadim Rygalov of the Space Studies faculty will present “Critical Human Factors in a Manned Martian Mission” at 4 p.m. March 10, in 111 Ryan Hall.

A live web broadcast will available for those unable to attend the presentation.

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to campus, she was part of two forums open to faculty, staff and students. During the forums, Subbaraman outlined her thoughts on what diversity is, how she deals with it in her current position and part of her life story.

“We think if we assemble a group of diverse people, that is diversity,” Subbaraman said. “To me, diversity is three things: knowledge, site of work and institutional mission and value.”

At the end of the forum, participants were given a chance to ask questions and give comments. Subbaraman was asked by one person how she would implement her work and philosophies at UND.

“I don’t know right now,” Subbaraman said. “I would have to do a case study and look at the university closer.”

The university is looking for a person who will, “lead the university’s efforts in the development and implementation of a strategic vision and operational plan for advancing diversity and inclusion. The position will serve as a resource and catalyst to assess, plan, develop and collaborate with UND community members regarding various diversity and inclusion related programs and initiatives,” according to a feedback form handed out during the forums.

The second candidate for the position visited campus on Feb. 27 and also participated in forums open to the campus. The final two candidates for the position are expected to visit campus in March.

Megan Hoffman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at megan.hoffman@my.und.edu

UND’s world-class aviation programs are one attraction for students from around the world. Lagasse said petroleum engineering is another popular option because North Dakota’s oil boom offers a good application for learning.

China is the country most represented on campus with 250 undergraduate and graduate students. Canada and Saudi Arabia are the next highest, with 180 and 90, respectively, according to Lagasse and campus data.

In the Pew Research study, China was also the leading source of international students in the US with 235,597 students, or 28.7 percent of the total. The next highest sources are India (11.8 percent), South Korea (8.6 percentage) and Saudi Arabia (5.4 percent).

Bassam Alqahtani, a freshman from Saudi Arabia double majoring in mechanical engineering and commercial aviation, said a sponsor from back home recommended he come to UND.

“My sponsor sent me here because of the programs, and I got a scholarship as well,” Alqahtani said. “I would encourage friends or my kids in the future to study abroad.”

Bassam Alqahtani, a freshman from Saudi Arabia double majoring in mechanical engineering and commercial aviation, said a sponsor from back home recommended he come to UND.

“My sponsor sent me here because of the programs, and I got a scholarship as well,” Alqahtani said. “I would encourage friends or my kids in the future to study abroad.”

However, this does not mean the university doesn’t care about recruiting international students.

“Our office is a good supporter of representation from around the world. It adds to the quality of education and the experience for all students,” Lagasse said. “I hope the numbers go up, because, currently, our international population is less than 10 percent. If we want to reflect the world we live in more accurately, we need a better representation of other countries.”

Emmy Erbes is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at emmy.erbes@my.und.edu
Let’s be good to ourselves, already

I didn’t deserve to eat, and when I did nourish myself, I felt physically and mentally like an abomination. Recovery didn’t seem like it would ever be within reach.

Marie Monson
staff writer

This week is National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, and I’d like to share a small piece of my own personal story in hopes it might provide insight and encouragement to some who face body image issues.

In 10th grade, I was captain of the volleyball team and had placed multiple times in the state track meet. I had a 4.0, and life was good, but things started to go downhill the next year.

I experienced a series of intestinal issues, and I had to log my food intake. As a serious athlete, I started to hyper-control my eating — every pound mattered. I needed to perform well in sports and in the classroom; I put an immense amount of pressure on myself.

I also started to think I needed to look a certain way, and gaining weight was pretty non-existent for a while.

Eventually I had to quit every sport I was involved in. Despite being hospitalized for some time, there were many relapses over the next couple years.

My world was very small, and there were some dark moments — self-worth was pretty non-existent for a while. I didn’t deserve to eat, and when I did nourish myself, I felt physically and mentally like an abomination. Recovery didn’t seem like it would ever be within reach, and I wasn’t driving my own life anymore.

I started to fear for my life, and I was really shaken up. I realized I deserved to get better and that the eating disorder wasn’t who I was but something that was tainting the person I could and wanted to be.

Eventually relapses got further and further apart, and I started to get better. I developed a sort of mantra that I repeated to myself during really difficult moments (it still comes in handy).

“Be good to yourself.” I said over and over.

It wasn’t easy. Actually, it was hell.

But, with a lot of help, I was able to make it a month, then two and eventually a year. Then another. Right now I’m at two and a half.

There were times when getting through 60 seconds was all I could manage, but “one day at a time” applies to eating disorder recovery just like it does alcoholism. We learn to love ourselves and to live in the present, because especially at the beginning, thinking about forever can be pretty daunting.

So you don’t. You get through it little by little, and eventually you realize how awesome you are and all the beauty you have to offer the world.

Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any mental disorder. They are insidious, and we need to do something about what we tell ourselves, what we tell each other and what we let society tell us.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, one in five women has an eating disorder or exhibits disordered eating, and about 10 to 15 percent of those with anorexia or bulimia are males. Even if you don’t struggle, you’ll come across many people who do.

So listen up.

Tomorrow morning, when you wake up, look in the mirror and tell yourself you’re beautiful, because you are.

Tell yourself right now.

And tell someone else they are beautiful too, because we all are. We need to rethink our definitions of beauty by being less harsh on our outer appearances and also by giving non-physical attributes more credit, because starving ourselves (literally) to death doesn’t make us happy — most notably, "cold.”

I’m also not impressed hearing about 12-year-olds adding to our binge drinking statistics, but all of these stats need to be taken with a grain of salt.

If anything, being at the top of these lists means one thing: it’s finally an interesting time to live in North Dakota.

Photo courtesy of Clemenger BBDO.

By Sam Wigness
The Dakota Student

Letter Policy

The Dakota Student encourages readers to express their opinions on the editorial pages. Letters to the editor are published based on merit, general interest, timeliness and content. All letters must be limited to 250 words.

• Letters may be mailed to 2901 University Ave. Stop 8385, Grand Forks, N.D. 58202-8385 or dropped off at noon, Friday, Memorial Union.

• Letters must be typed and must include the author’s name, major or profession and telephone number.

• All letters will be edited to fit the allocated space. Writer may be limited to one letter per month.

Friday February 28, 2014
Procrastination is a threat to obtaining desired grades, but it still seems difficult to eradicate.

Part of the problem is that in order to properly address a problem, you need to first look at the causes, and when it comes to procrastination, there are so many.

It depends on the individual. Some people tend to put off studying because they have legitimate things they need to do (maybe a result of over-commitment or poor time management skills). Some people have difficulty working and sometimes dread facing it.

In my case and many other’s, the root cause is that I just get distracted.

Carbs really not so bad

Mary Ochs

The Dakota Student

I love food. I’m definitely not ashamed to admit it. It’s practically impossible for me to resist Mexican or Italian food, and I’m all about the chocolate.

However, that doesn’t mean I eat poorly or have terrible habits because I occasionally indulge myself. Over the years, I’ve discovered some interesting things about certain foods that surprised me and caused me to feel less guilty for consuming them.

I’ve come to discover there are physical advantages for our body by eating these foods—not to mention satisfaction in eating them.

Common myths and widespread false claims will have us believe any and all carbs will make you fat. Eating chocolate is practically a sin.

The idea is we want to look like the people on magazine covers, then we need to cut out carbohydrates. We are told we aren’t skinny or fit enough, and eating these foods will never help you get there.

I’d like to call their bluff.

Chocolate is my №1 nectar. Dark chocolate is the healthiest form of milk chocolate, and it tastes better.

It’s also pretty good for you physically.

Cocoa beans have something called flavonoids in them that function as antioxidants. They fight off free radicals caused by aging, to help prevent heart disease.

Flavonoids also help your blood vessels maintain elasticity and decrease blood flow to the brain to boost intelligence and memory. I can always use more of that.

Dark chocolate also has proven to be more filling than milk chocolate, and it lessens cravings for sweet, Salty and fatty foods. I’ve found if you put some in a trail mix with dried berries and assorted nuts, it’s pretty healthy, pretty filling and pretty darn delicious.

The mental benefits of chocolate are great, too. Supposedly it helps to regulate hormones and stimulate endorphin production, which will help control stress levels. Note that for muffins and finals.

We also are constantly being fed the notion that chocolate is bad because of the sugar, and all carbs should be cut out from our diet. In proper quantities, we need them to keep ourselves healthy.

There are many benefits to those words! In fact, research says we need carbs. As an abundance of carbs isn’t healthy, but knowing what kinds and how much to have. After all, an abundance of any kind of food is unhealthy— a balanced diet is the best kind of diet.

Fiber, which seems to correspond to lots of foods with carbs helps you maintain a healthy weight. The healthier sources of carbs like whole grains can help you stay fuller longer, so you don’t eat as much.

I have always been a fan of carbs and sweet foods. During high school, I played three sports and could eat anything, anytime and not suffer any negative effects because my metabolism was so high. Sadly, it didn’t last.

In college, I am constantly conscious of what I’m eating. It has definitely taken time to find a balance between eating whatever the hell I want versus eating only things society deems healthy.

Eating nutritionally healthy is about finding a balance of all different kinds of foods. But most importantly, feel good about yourself no matter what.

I have happily discovered through experience and proper education that there is no reason to eliminate delicious carbs from our diet. While they should definitely be consumed in moderation and correct portions, there should never be any guilt or shame in indulging in them.

I’ve never met anyone who said they’ve happened treading a head of broccoli over a square of dark chocolate. You also can’t tell me you’d enjoy life without an occasional treat from Oliver Garden. As long as these foods aren’t being consumed at gluttonous rates, we should never feel guilty.

If you find yourself making simple pleasures puts you in an overall better mood.

There is no reason to be so strict on yourself and “not allow” yourself to eat these things. Just do it sensibly. These little indulgences are guaranteed to make us feel better.

As long as you feel good about yourself and your health, there’s no reason not to be rewarded.

Ignore the food police and their so-called rules to looking like a Victoria’s Secret Model. Go eat a piece of chocolate. Save yourself.

Common myths and widespread false claims will have us believe any and all carbs will make you fat.

Mary Ochs

staff writer

Library cuts come out of nowhere

Kjerstine Trooien

The Dakota Student

I don’t really know how else to put it: I’m super busy. Really, incredibly, horrifically upset.

You should be too. In fact, we should all at the very least be throwing temper tantrums on the lawn in front of the Chester Fritz Library.

It’s been fairly outspoken about my love of books. I’m an English major—books are my life.

I am angry that the Chester Fritz is facing a huge loss in funds. Provost Thomas DiLorenzo sent out a campus-wide email post-deadline, explaining that the library was not facing a budget cut, but it was not going to have the funds it needed.

It really doesn’t matter if it’s a budget issue or a “shortfall” as DiLorenzo put it. Either way, we know one thing for sure: the Chester Fritz is in trouble.

I understand to many students, the Chester Fritz is nothing more than a building that houses the relics of yesterday.

Everything is online now, right? Yes, but the Chester Fritz has to pay for access to those sources. The library is more than a place where scary old ladies in glasses shush you for sneezing. It’s the glue that holds academia together. It’s the place where we hold everything that makes us who we are.

It’s where we turn when we are looking for research on mitochondrial DNA. When we need to escape reality, we go to the library and get a good book.

The library is the physical representation of humanity’s collective brain. We can’t live without it.

Kjerstine Trooien is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at kjerstine.trooien@my.und.edu.
SPIRIT
FROM PAGE 1

Engelstad Arena, no Gorecki Alumni Center and no scholarships. Spirit Week is a time to celebrate those who've helped make UND great. Spirit Week started off Monday with Spirit Day which was celebrated by wearing UND apparel.

Tuesday morning, Mug Up to Philanthropy was held outside the Chester Fritz Library, where students could warm up in below-zero temperatures with a cup of hot cocoa while playing games and winning prizes and meeting some of the UND celebrities, such as Cassie Gerhard, Lori Reesor, DeAnna Carlson Zink, Dan Musc and Doug Munske.

Wednesday, the State of the Foundation address was given by Carlson Zink at 7 a.m. The address focussed on the fund-raising efforts by the foundation.

Thursday was National Student Engagement and Philanthropy Day and UND Founders Day. The celebration started with Speak Up to Philanthropy, which gave UND students the chance to write a thank you card to a UND donor. The Founders Day banquet was held for the UND community to honor employees who have served UND at least 25 years, employees who are retiring and award recipients.

"It is an honor to speak at this banquet and to share an opportunity to thank our outstanding faculty and recognize their excellence," Carlson Zink said of speaking at the Founders Day banquet. "We don't take enough time to recognize the important role individuals and departments play in molding and inspiring students who will shape the future of the world we live in."

Today, the celebration ends with Pay it Forward Friday, where UND students can stop by the Memorial Union to show their spirit and get candy.

"Spirit Week helps remind us why private gifts are so important to UND. These gifts become differentiating factors and helps fund new buildings, many scholarships and new faculty," Carlson Zink said.

Ashley Marquis is a staff writer for the Dakota Student. She can be reached at ashley.m.marquis@my.und.edu.
English professor Elizabeth Harris is a self-proclaimed translation nerd. She celebrated the publishing of her second work of literary translation Thursday afternoon at a reading and reception at the North Dakota Museum of Art.

“The two books I’ve had published, Mario Rigoni Stern’s novel ‘Giacomo’s Seasons’ and Giulio Mozzi’s story collection ‘This Is the Garden,’ were books that I chose,” Harris said. “I picked them because they moved me; I thought they were beautiful and that they deserved an American audience.”

A couple dozen attended Harris’ reading, but English graduate student Beate Stokkvik said that wasn’t enough.

“I’ve never been to a reading before,” Stokkvik said. “It’s such an accomplishment for Liz. I wish there were more people here — most are from the language department, and it’d be cool if more from outside showed up too.”

Harris, who teaches creative writing and periodic translation courses, got her masters degree in creative writing at Johns Hopkins University after receiving a bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota. She went on to earn master of fine arts degrees in both creative writing and literary translation from the University of Arkansas.

“Once I discovered that there was such a thing as literary translation, it seemed like the perfect fit for me,” she said.

Harris left Bluffton College in Ohio in 2004 and has been teaching at UND ever since, putting in extra hours balancing translation and teaching.

“Teaching can and will fill up every moment of a teacher’s time, and this is very important work, so it has to be taken seriously,” she said. “As a teacher, if you really want to write, you have to carve out time to write … On my weekends, I don’t answer the phone during the day. I get up in the morning, and I translate, and I try not to stop except for a dog walk and lunch until late afternoon.”

During the summers, Harris concentrates on translating. She works around six to eight hours a day at translating — most of the time, not always — and takes a day off a week.

“For me, a translation nerd, this is fun. It’s what I want to be doing,” Harris said.

Harris has won a couple of translation prizes including 2013 Translation Prize from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Culture in Rome, and a 2013 PEN/Heim Translation Fund Prize from the PEN American Center.

Despite years of practice, Harris was challenged by her latest translation, but said she grew through the process.

“I feel like translating Mozzi pushed me to a new level as a translator,” she said. “I paid extremely close attention to Mozzi’s prose style while I translated, and tried to find a style in English that would match what was there in the Italian. I hope I’ve succeeded.”

The tenured professor is already working on her next project, translating Antonio Tabucchi’s “Tristano Dies,” which is set to come out with Archipelago Books in 2015.

“Translators can’t just translate everything,” she said. “Some authors, some voices, are a better fit than others. Lucky for me, the publisher of Archipelago liked my translation sample, because ‘Tristano Dies’ is a great book, really complicated, really challenging and beautiful.

“All authors have their particular style, and that’s perhaps the greatest challenge of all, but it’s what I love about translation. It is endlessly challenging, and frustrating, and also fun.”

By Marie Monson
The Dakota Student
‘Lego Movie’ for all ages

MOVIE REVIEW

“The Lego Movie” ★★★★★

By Misti Meads
The Dakota Student

A movie about a popular children’s toy might not seem appealing to adults, but “The Lego Movie” supplies enough clean, humorous entertainment to thrill both children and adults.

After hearing all the buzz about the film, I saw this movie over the weekend with a few friends. I assumed it would be full of children, but the majority of the audience was college students and older adults sharing laughs with one another.

One of the best aspects of the movie was the star-studded cast that included Morgan Freeman, Will Ferrell, Jonah Hill, Shaqueille O’Neal, Channing Tatum, Craig Berry, Liam Neeson, Charlie Day and Keith Ferguson. Having these popular actors do voiceovers made the movie more enjoyable, and I could relate to their characters’ personalities — even though Will Ferrell voices the bad guy.

Director Adam McKay avoided the usual prince and princess prototypes found in many children’s movies and relied instead on characters from the existing Lego sets including Batman, Abraham Lincoln, C-3PO and Gandalf.

“The Lego Movie” takes place in a world created completely out of Lego bricks and run by Lego MiniFigures. The main MiniFigure, Emmet (Chris Pratt), is an everyday construction worker for the town and ultimately becomes the hero after a villain tries to freeze all of the Lego towns. Emmet becomes the popular hero when he begins to believe he is the “special” chosen one. Later, he has an epiphany when he finds out that there is no “special,” but rather everyone is special in their own way.

UND Theatre students perform a scene from "Shadow Box" on Tuesday night at the Burtness Lab Theatre. Photo courtesy of Brad Reissig.

Pulitzer winning play performed

— UND Theatre Group performs Broadway classic, depicts affects of cancer

By Adele Kieger
The Dakota Student

Most works I’ve seen about cancer lack a depiction of the experience of loved ones. “The Shadow Box” gives the audience exactly that — the perspectives of loved ones struggling with the devastating affects of illness as much as the actual patient. Having many family members who have had cancer, I found it refreshing to see a brutally honest depiction of the loved ones.

“The Shadow Box” is a play written by actor Michael Cristofer that made its debut on Broadway in 1977. It won the 1977 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and a Tony Award for Best Play.

The play follows three terminal cancer patients awaiting their deaths in separate cottages on a hospital’s grounds. What makes this play so unique is that the characters are seen on three separate stages representing the cottages.

The Burtness Lab Theatre isn’t an ideal spot for this play because the stages are surrounded by the audience. Instead of exiting the stage when a scene changes, the characters stay on the stage with the lights dimmed and remain motionless. This was quite awkward, and I couldn’t help but peek at the motionless characters instead of focusing on the scene I was supposed to be watching.

In Cottage One was cancer patient Joe (Joe Bussey) a reliable, trustworthy and overall good middle-aged guy who just wants to be with his wife Maggie (Claire Wehry) and son Steve (Havard Korsmo) in his final days. Maggie is much more frightened than Joe, as she chatters uncomfortably and avoids the cottage because she wants Joe to go home so things can return to normal. She has not told Steve his father is dying because she can’t come to terms with it herself. Steve has not seen his father in six months and, like Joe, just wants to spend time with his parents, but Maggie’s skewed reality takes that

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UND Theatre students perform a scene from "Shadow Box" on Tuesday night at the Burtness Lab Theatre. Photo courtesy of Brad Reissig.

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I thought about my own relationship and her normal routine. Wehry had me move in with her so she can keep an eye on me. Joe said it's too soon, and she needs me to stay around. Claire's relationship felt painfully real to me. Joe and Maggie's performances. Joe and Maggie's relationship felt painfully real to me.

More importantly, her daughter Agnes. She looked absolutely horrible and it plagued me for several hours afterward. Since the movie has been in theaters, I have not heard a single complaint about anything other than this song, but that just made the movie even better. The jokes were clean, yet entertaining even for an older audience, and several of them refer to other movies.

My favorite reference was when Batman (Will Arnett) made a reference to "The Dark Knight" by telling Lucy (Elizabeth Banks) "He's (Tim) the hero you deserve." The movie also referenced "21 Jump Street," "Harry Potter," and "The Godfather." While it had a great vibe throughout the movie, I actually left the theater with this annoying song stuck in my head, and it plagued me for several hours afterward. Since the movie has been in theaters, I have not heard a single complaint about anything other than this song, but that just made the movie even better. The jokes were clean, yet entertaining even for an older audience, and several of them refer to other movies.

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Ronkowski swings weekly honors

— Grand Forks native brings talent to UND tennis team, posts wins last weekend

By Marie Monson
The Dakota Student

UND tennis player Callie Ronkowski has led North Dakota in its recent four-game winning streak, most recently paving the way against Idaho State and Nebraska-Omaha as she went undefeated on the weekend.

Her efforts earned her Big Sky Player of the Week honors for the second time this season.

“We’ve kind of on a good roll right now,” Ronkowski said.

“At the beginning of the season, we played some tougher opponents that we had a harder time against. I think that was good for us just to get kind of a benchmark — and especially with so many freshmen, it gave us an idea of how well we’re going to have to play.

“So the past few matches we’ve been winning and I think we’re going in the right direction for sure.”

The UND junior first earned Player of the Week honors Feb. 11 after a successful weekend against Northern Iowa, Creighton and Western Illinois. Her most recent victories put her at 6-3 for matches this season, the last six of which she has won.

“My mentality is win every match that we have, so I think that’s the only way you can really go into it,” Ronkowski said.

On top of her singles victories, Ronkowski has won two of three conference doubles matches, the most recent of which was with UND No. 1 Stephanie Petsis against Nebraska-Omaha’s No. 1 team of Alex Tian and Jacqueline Baudle.

“We’ve beat a lot of big teams out there,” Petsis said.

“(Ronkowski) is really good at the net, so I usually serve first and then she puts away all the balls at the net, and she’s really competitive up there, it makes for a competitive team.”

Ronkowski, a Grand Forks native, says she enjoys the chance to team up with a UND partner.

“I used to be pretty much a singles player, but I think after coming and playing college tennis where you’re still playing individually, but it all comes in for the team score in the end.”

Ronkowski and Petsis set the tone for UND with their victory Saturday at Choice Health and Fitness in Grand Forks.

Although they were the only doubles team to get a win for North Dakota, UND was successful in singles as it won five of six matches for an overall victory.

The win improved North Dakota to a 4-5 overall record and put it in the No. 2 spot in Big Sky Conference standings, just one match below Northern Colorado.

“This year we’ve been working on being able to play with anyone as far as doubles goes so that we can change partners on any given day,” Ronkowski said.

“I’ve actually played from the beginning of the year all with a different girl on the team, so our last match was the first match I’ve played with Steph this year.”

While the transition was smooth, Ronkowski said she enjoys a routine.

“Everybody’s different,” she said.

“For me I kind of like to play with one person just because the longer you play with somebody the better you get. But I’m always looking at what chemistry and stuff like that. I think we’ve done a pretty good job this year of being able to adjust to playing with everybody on our team.”

The Green and White continue their season Monday when they host No. 7 Eastern Washington at noon.

“My mentality is win every match that we have, so I think that’s the only way you can really go into it,” Ronkowski said.

“As a team though our goal is to make it to the conference tournament — we’ve missed out on it for the last few years, so that’s been kind of the focus and what centers everything for us.”
You always know the reality of your situation, and then you focus on the short-term things.

Dave Hakstol  
UND coach

“I think the great thing about our team is we can have different guys step up on different weeks,” Grimaldi said. “That’s what a great team does. You have different guys step up when the top line isn’t going … it just progresses through and someone else is a hero the next weekend and then someone else.

“You’ve got to have that to be a great team, so I think the freshmen have been doing a great job and being comfortable in their roles. Obviously, it’s not always easy coming into a team that’s been together for two, three or four years and you come in and make your place. So I think they’re doing a great job and working hard in practice and earning their spots and really adding to the team.

It certainly wasn’t easy for Keaton Thompson. Just a few hours from his hometown of Devils Lake, N.D., the freshman patiently waited his turn for playing time.

“It’s never easy,” Hakstol said. “That transition, guys aren’t used to not being in the lineup and the challenge to come in and adjust to this level is a big one. I think Keaton handled it extremely well. He’s one of the hardest working guys at the rink every day. He did extra, he was always a great teammate throughout everything, so I think he handled it extremely well.”

Thompson recently has skated well on the blue line in front of a loyal North Dakota crowd, even posting a goal against Miami on Feb. 15.

But with a road trip to St. Cloud this weekend, the fans at the National Hockey Center have proven their worth.

“It’s a lot of fun,” senior captain Dillon Simpson said. “Their student section is usually pretty crazy. Even though they’re cheering against us, there’s some energy we feed off of.”

The energy level is high, and the atmosphere reflects nothing short of the potential to punch a ticket to the post-season tournament — after taking care of unfinished business.

“IT think it’s just the time of year,” Grimaldi said. “Getting into March, it’s just playoff hockey. I think guys are excited for it. We don’t want to put too much on the line right now. Obviously, our big goal is to make the tournament and win the tournament. But other than that, more importantly, getting back at (St. Cloud) from a long time ago.”
Eagles soar to UND
— Home stretch games yield high stakes points

By Alex Slodnik
The Dakota Student

In what has been a successful season for the Green and White so far, perhaps their biggest weekend of basketball is here.

Depending how UND plays its next couple of games, it could end up being the No. 2 seed or remain completely out of the playoffs — the race for the Big Sky Conference Tournament is that close.

“The last couple weeks have been a little nutty, I think,” UND coach Brian Jones said. “Some teams are starting to win on the road, so you just never know. All the teams that are in this same group seem to play one another.”

Saturday, Eastern Washington will come to Grand Forks to try and take down UND.

The Eagles could not accomplish that feat the last time the two teams faced off in Eastern Washington as UND held the advantage over the Eagles, 75-61. The Green and White played a dominant game on the defensive end, forcing 16 turnovers, blocking five shots and contesting many of the Eagles shots — causing them to shoot only 37.7 percent from the field.

On the offensive side, senior leaders Troy Huff and Aaron Anderson took over the game, scoring 17 and 15 points, respectively. Along with some solid bench play, UND coasted to its fourth win in a row.

Things have changed, though, since the last time the two teams played. Whole UND has played solid basketball, it has not always yielded the results they have been looking for.

“Last Thursday, I don’t think we played well, and we only lost by five,” Jones said. “At Portland State, we played well for 20 minutes and lost by two. We’ve had our moments. When we’ve played well, our focus has been there and our energy has been there.”

After its four-game win streak, UND failed to find its groove. It lost two in a row to conference leading Weber State and a Portland State team that is right in the thick of the tournament race. After that stretch, the team has played just over .500 ball, going 3-2 from Feb. 8-22.

On the other side, the Eagles have been playing their best basketball of the season. As of Feb. 25, they are 5-2, with some dominant wins over Big Sky conference teams. In those five wins, the Eagles have scored over 80 points four times.

Olympians return for season playoffs
— Karvinen and Tapani compete with team

By Mariah Holland
The Dakota Student

The UND women’s hockey team will start its playoff series this weekend against rival Bemidji State at the Ralph Engelstad Arena in a best of three series.

For recently returned Olympian Michelle Karvinen and Su-sanna Tapani, this will be the first time they’ve seen Bemidji this season.

UND won three and tied one of the four games in the regular season against the Beavers. Bemi-dji will be coming off a weekend sweep of St. Cloud State when the team arrives to take on UND.

Coach Brian Idalski said the team’s last series against the rival was a challenge.

“One of the things that is kind of interesting within the four games is that Tapani and Karvinen haven’t played in any of them,” Idalski said. “So it’s going to be very interesting how they react to playing Bemidji and their style and how disciplined they are.”

After three weeks being away from UND, many of the play-ers are excited for Karvinen to be back. The Olympian also had mixed feelings as to how her team has been playing in her absence.

“It’s great — it has been quite an adventure but I’m glad to be back here with the team,” Karvinen said. “I don’t know, I’ve kind of been talking to people here at home, and I’m not too worried. We just have some scor-ing problems and I think now, being back, we are the team that has had to face the most adver-sity. I think now, everyone being back, I think we can turn it around.”

By Elizabeth Erickson
The Dakota Student

The UND men’s hockey team skated off the ice at Ralph Engels-dad Arena in early November at the conclusion of the St. Cloud game, and sat pondering in the locker room — realizing it had witnessed a new record.

But not the good kind.

With a 3-1 advantage for the visitors on the scoreboard, the Hus-kies became the first team to sweep UND since the last time the two teams faced off in Eastern Washington as UND held the advantage over the Eagles.

Nearly four months later, that streak is dead.

“The last couple weeks have been a little nutty, I think,” UND coach Brian Jones said. “Some teams are starting to win on the road, so you just never know. All the teams that are in this same group seem to play one another.”

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